1: Lee H-5 (no date) 1949 EE1 Bulgaria EE1
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XXVII

BULGARIA AND YUGOSLAVIA

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Introduction

B-Y 727 648 BULGARIA and Yugoslavia emerged from the war of 1914-1918 in contrasting positions—the one a defeated power and the other a victor. This situation, a repetition of that following the Second Balkan War only six years before, helped to perpetuate a feeling of rivalry and bitterness toward each other. Both nations, however, faced serious political and economic problems at home which were far from satisfactorily settled when the war of 1939-1945 caught them up again and threw them once more on opposite sides of the struggle.

Bulgaria[1]

B 727 643 668 The military collapse of Bulgaria in September, 1918, was followed shortly afterward on October 4 by the abdication of Tsar Ferdinand and the succession of Boris III. Although the pro-German premier, Radoslavov, had resigned some months before, his successors who signed the armistice were unable to stem the current of discontent and disillusionment caused by wartime suffering and the prospect of a severe peace. Accordingly, in the elections of August, 1919, the leftist Agrarian party won a significant victory under the leadership of Alexander Stambolisky who had gone to jail for three years because of his opposition to entry into the war and, upon his release in 1918, had sought to set up a republic. Of peasant stock, he was the embodiment of the hopes for a new era held by the Bulgarian farmers who constituted nearly 80 per cent of the population. After

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113 [1] The best studies on contemporary Bulgaria are the following: A. Bulatsel, *Ocherki sotsialno-politicheskoĭ zhizni Bolgarii* (Moscow, 1925); K. Dimitriev, *Bolgariya* (Moscow, [illegible]); A. Girginov, *Ot voĭnata kŭm mir* (Sofia, 1937); T. Girginov, *Istoricheski razvoĭ na savremenna Bŭlgariya* (2 v.; Sofia, 1934-1935); N. Iliev, *Boris III, tsar na Bŭlgaritĕ* (Sofia, 1936); A. P. Malinov, *Stranichki ot nashata nova politicheska istoriya* (Sofia, 1938); N. D. Mishkov, *Aleksandŭr Stambolĭiski. Lichnost i idei* (Sofia, 1930); N. Stanev, *Istoriya na nova Bŭlgariya, 1878-1928* (Sofia, 1929); K. Todorov, *Politička istorija savremene Bugarske* (Belgrad, 1938). Sources in Slavic languages have been supplied by Professor C. E. Black of Princeton University.

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of Yugoslavia" (AVNOJ), established at Jayce, November, 1943. Following the Teheran decision, pressure was put upon King Peter in London to make an agreement with Tito. This was accomplished in the summer of 1944 by Ivan Subašić who had been appointed premier of the government-in-exile for that purpose. As the Germans were gradually cleared out of the country after the surrender of Italy and Bulgaria, the further step of setting up a provisional government on Yugoslav soil was taken in March, 1945, when a new regency council was appointed, Tito was made premier, and Subašić became foreign minister. Though the story of the next few months was to be scarcely less exciting than that of the war period, it belongs to the era of peacemaking and reconstruction where it will be discussed.

Bulgaria

Even though Bulgaria shared in the early triumphs of the Axis, occupying Thrace as well as most of Macedonia, its position was little better than Yugoslavia's. The Bulgarian government had to adopt a policy of severe repression, especially after 1941, in order to keep in line the mass of the population whose traditional sympathies for Russia and the United States were aroused after their entry into the war against Germany. Moreover, the Third Reich made ever increasing demands upon the country as the initial Nazi victories were turned into defeat in both Russia and the Mediterranean. Reports from Bulgaria of insurrections, sabotage, student demonstrations, Communist terrorism, and disaffected public servants including army officers were common throughout 1942 and 1943. The Nazis found it necessary not only to direct all police work but also to interfere frequently in the administration of important government departments until the German Minister, Beckerle, became virtually a *Gauleiter* in a hostile land. Apparently Boris III and his governments did their best to resist the most distasteful demands, and it may well be that the tsar met his death in August, 1943, because of his refusal to yield to Hitler's requests. Some indication of the temper of the people may be gleaned from the fact that Premier Filov arranged a pro-German Council of Regency for young Tsar Simeon II without taking the risk of seeking authorization from a specially elected *sobranje* as required by the constitution.[8]

By late spring, 1944, reports began to appear concerning "Partisan" activity in Bulgaria and the formation of a "Fatherland Front" composed of

[8] Very little reliable information concerning Bulgaria since 1941 has been published. For the briefest summaries of news reports, see the references cited in footnote 6 above and also the *Bulletin of International News*, XXI XXII (1944-45). Foreign newspaper correspondents were admitted to bulgaria only in the middle of 1945.

563 banishment and economic spoliation against the Bulgarians.
167 It brought them misery, sickness and death. This is a long story and space prevents us to tell it even in brief on this occasion (Fig. 10).

Bulgarians were exiled to the islands of Crete, Milos, Citera, Mitilene and Chios and to some parts of the Greek main land. Nearly 25,000 Bulgarians were banished in this manner. Many of them died of hunger and distress — particularly old people and children. Two hundred persons died in the village of Domus-Déré. Those who were lucky to return alive found their villages ruined and pillaged. Colonel Korf and Major Deroover, who were delegates in the mixed Bulgarian-Greek Commission on expatriations, reported: „Those who were sent to exile formed lines, which continued for weeks, during the months of February and March of 1923. The expatriation from each village was effected without delay. The unprepared villagers started on their jorney without any personal effects, abandoning their property and their crops. About 15,000 to 20,000 families were thus exiled to the islands and Thesally. To save themselves from exile many took refuge in Bulgaria ... Banished Bulgarians, who managed to survive, were brought back from the islands and from Thesally in the fall of 1923. Their condition was destitute and lamentable. They pleaded that Bulgaria should open her frontiers and accept them on her territory, because they found their homes empty and were dying of hunger and cold."

127 563 **37. Modern Greek Cruelties.** Basil II Vulgaroctonos or the „Slayer of Bulgarians", in 1014, bored the eyes of 15,000 Bulgarian captives and left, for each group of 100, one single eyed guard to lead them. Greek cruelty towards anything that savours of Bulgarian, has not diminished since that time. Because of the generally milder and more humane attitude of the world of to-day, Greek cruelty should appear to have been softened a bit; but this really is a delusion, because, on the contrary, the Greeks manifest now a days the same inclinations.

The investigation made by a commission of the Carnegie Endowment after the mutual accusations of cruelties after the Balkan War, 1912-1913, has furnished us with an abundant evidence of Greek cruelty, which explains the Bulgarian depopulation of Western Thrace. We find the following in the intro-

8: Bojkoff K-4, 5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

duction to the repport of this investigations whose acting Director was Nicolas Murrey Butler: [1])

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„The circumstances which attended the Balkan Wars of 1912 and 1913 were of such character as to fix upon them the attention of the civilized world. The conflicting reports as to what actually occured before and during these wars, together with the persistent rumors often supported by specific and detailed statements as to violations of the laws of war by the several combatants, made it important that an impartial and exhaustive examination should be made of this entire episode in contemporary history... It was with this motive and for this purpose that the Division of Intercourse and Education of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace constituted in July, 1913, an International Commission of Inquiry to study the recent Balkan Wars and to visit the actual scenes where fighting has taken place and the territory which has been devasted...[2])

We give the following extract from the repport:

„(p. 103). The Commission regrets that the attitude of the Greek governement toward its work has prevented it from obtaining any official answer to the charges which emerge from this evidence. The broad fact that the whole of this Bulgarian region, for a distance of about one hundred miles, was devasted and nearly (p. 104) every village burned, admits of non denial... No verdict which is based on the evidence collected by the Commission could be more severe than that which Greek soldiers have pronounced upon themselves. It happened that on the eve of the armistice (July 27) the Bulgarians captured the baggage of the Nineteenth Greek infantry regiment at Dobrinishte (Razlog). It included its post-bags...

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[1]) Report of the International Commission to Inquire into the Causes and Conduct of the Balkan Wars; publ. by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Division of Intercourse and Education; publication No 4; Washington D. C., 1914.

[2]) The Presidence of this International Commission was entrusted to Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, Senator of France, who had represented his country at the First and Second Hague Conference of 1899 and 1907; Members of the Commission: Austria — Dr. Josef Redlich, Prof. of Public Law, University of Vienna; Germany — Dr. Walter Schückling, Prof. of Law at the University of Marburg; Great Britain — Francis W. Hirst, Esq., Editor of The Economist an Dr. H. N. Brailsford, journalist; Russia — Prof. Paul Milioukoff, Member of the Douma; United States — Dr. Samuel T. Dutton, Prof. in Teachers' College, Columbia University,

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The soldiers' letters reguire no commentary. Some of the writers boast of the cruelties practiced by the Greek army. Others deplore them. The statements in fact (see Appendix C, No 51) are simple, brutal, and direct, and always to the same effect. These soldiers all state that they everywhere burned the Bulgarian villages. Two boast of the massacre of prisoners of war. One remarks that all the girls they met were violated. Most of the letters dwell on the slaughter of incombatants, including women and children. These few extracts, each from a separate letter, may suffice to convey their general terror:

„By order of the King we are setting fire to all the Bulgarian villages because the Bulgarians burned the beautiful town of Serres, Nigrita, and several Greek villages.[1])

„We have shown ourselves far more cruel than the Bulgarians... Here we are burning the villages and killing the Bulgarians, both women and children... We took only a few (prisoners), and these we killed, for such are the orders we have received.., We have to burn the villages — such is the order — slaughter the young people and spare only the old people and the children... What is done to the Bulgarians is indescriptible; also to the Bulgarian peasants. It was a butchery. There is not a Bulgarian town or village but is burned... We massacre all the Bulgarians wo fall into our hands and burn the villages... Of the 1200 prisoners we took at Nigrita, only forty-one remain in the prisons, and everywhere we have been we have not left a single root of this race... We picked out their eyes (five Bulgarian prisoners) while they were stil alive... The Greek army sets fire to all the villages where there are Bulgarians and massacres all it meets. ... God knows where this will end."

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[1]) Cf. ibid. p. 94: „The cases against the Bulgarians which remains after critical examination of the evidence relating to Dexato, Serres and Demir-Hissar is sufficiently grave. In each case the Bulgarians acted under provocation and in each case the accusation is grossly exagerated, but their repricals were non the less laxles and unmeasured. It is fair, however, to point out that these three cases, even on the worst view which may be taken by them, are far from supporting the general statements of some Greek writers, that the Bulgarians in their withdrawl from southern Macedonia and western Thrace, followed a general policy of devastation and massacre. They held five considerable Greeco-Turkish towns in this area and many smaller place — Drama, Kavala, Xanthi, Gumurdjina and Dedeagatch. In none of these did the Bulgarians burn and massacre, through some facts of violence occured."

8. Bojkoff K-4,5 (no date) 1940 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

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„These letters relieve us of the task of summing up the evidence. From Kukush to the Bulgarian frontier the Greek army devasted the villages, violated the women, and slaughtered the noncombatant men. The order to carry out reprisals was evidently obeyed. We repeat, however, that these reprisals began before the Bulgarian provocation. A list of Bulgarian villages burned by the Greek army which will be found in Apendix C (No 52) convey some measure of this ruthless devastation. At Serres Bulgarians destroyed 4000 (p. 106) houses in the conflagration which followed the fighting in the streets. The ruin of this considerable town has impressed the imagination of the civilized world. Systematically and in cold blood the Greeks burned one hundred and sixty Bulgarian villages and destroyed at least 16.000 Bulgarian homes. The figures need no commentary."

A large part of the population fled to Bulgaria. Considerable part of them were butchered or drowned in the sea like Bostandjieff, the Secretary of the Salonica municipality and the Vicar of the Bulgarian Archbishorpric at Salonica, the Archimandrite Eulogius. The latter was a highly educated man, having studied at an eclesiastical high school in Austria-Hungary and then in Paris[1]). — The Archimandrite Eulogius lived his last on June 18/July 1.[1])

A witness described the scene of the murder of Reverend Father Eulogius in the following words:[2])

„We were a number of soldiers on board the steamer Catherine. I happened to stand a little apart. The Greek soldiers ordered our people to go down into the hold. When I found myself alone I was afraid of being thrown out of the ship and held my breath. At this moment the Vicar of our Archibishopric, the Rev. Father Eulogius, was brought up and two Greek soldiers having hastily robbed him transfixed him with their bayonets and threw him into the sea. I saw his long black hair floating for some time on the water, and then everything disappeared."

Considerable part of the Bulgarian population was butchered or drowned like Bostandjieff or Rev. Father Eulogius,

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[1]) Ibid. p. 189.
[2]) Ibid. p. 191.

Bojkoff K-4,5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

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or interned on the island of Thrakiri and died there in martyrdom.

The town of Kukush (Kikis) and 30 villages of this country were among the inhabitated localities which were rased to the ground. The three villages of Negovan, Ravna and Bogoroditza in the vicinity of Salonica were also burned.

The fact that the main streets of all Macedonian and Thracian towns are named after Basil II, the Slayer of Bulgarians, shows how little the Greek has advanced in the last quarter of a century. There was a street even in Salonica, which was named after King Constantine Voulgaroctonos (Slayer of Bulgarians), who ordered the butchery of Bulgarians in 1914 and the burning of their villages.

38. The Greek „Voulgarophaghi", 1913.

We read in the report of the Carnegie Investigation Commission the following[1]):

„The Greek army went into the war, its mind inflamed with anger and contempt. A gaudily colored print, which we saw in the streets of Salonica and Pireaus, eagerly bought by the Greek soldiers returning to their homes, reveals the depth of the brutality to which this race hatred had sunk them. It shows a Greek evzone (highlander) holding a living Bulgarian soldier with both hands, while he gnaws the face of his victim with his teeth, like some beast of prey. It is entitled the Bulgarophagos (Bulgar-Eater), and is adorned with the following verses:

„The sea of fire which boils in my brest
And calls for vengeance with the savage waves of my soul,
Will be quenched when the monsters of Sofia are still,
And the life blood extinguishes my hate.

„Another popular battle picture shows a Greek soldier gouging out the eyes of a living Bulgarian. A third shows as an episode of a battle scene the exploit of the Bulgar eater."

„As an evidence of the feeling which animated the Greek army these things have their importance. They mean, in plain words, that Greek soldiers wished to believe that they and their comrades perpetrated bestial cruelties. A print seller

[1]) Ibid. p. 95-96.

8: Bojkoff K-4, 5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

who issued such pictures in a western country would be held guilty of a gross libel on its army." (Fig. 11).

Fig. 11. This picture is borowed from the Report of the International Commission (Carnegie Endowment) pp. 96-98 and shows the Greek „Bulgarophaghi" or „Eaters of Bulgarians", as they themselves have given the picture. Bulgarian villages in flames are seen in the background. (1913).

But let us stop at that. The records of the injustices and cruelties, committed for ages against the Bulgarians, are enormous and voluminous. So that we should not think of Bulgaria, like many a casual sentimentalist do, as only the land of the sweet scent of roses. Bulgaria is the land of great trials and tribulations, which need be known to anyone who has

11: Logio S-4 (no date) 1936 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

175 raised in 1914 and 1921, of 83, and 157 million leva respectively, as well as that of the 270 millions advanced by the 457 Diskonto Gesellschaft, which would bring the total military 652 expenditure up to 6216 million leva, of varying value, however, since the leva had depreciated from the intrinsic equivalent of a gold franc in 1914 to as little as 0.036 gold franc in 1921. These 6216 millions were financed by the expedients of increasing the fiduciary circulation which from 226,615,000 leva at the end of 1914 rose to the record figure of 4,622,833,000 on Nov. 30, 1924, and by the advances of the National Bank which at the end of the financial year 1921-1922 amounted to 4,206 million leva.

This estimate is for military expenditure incurred by 175 the State during the World war, and it is permissible to 652 presume that even parts of the budgetary deficits of the years 1921 to 1923 represented expenditure on this head. • 727 It takes no account of the losses inflicted on the community at large, or of the war pensions the State had to serve subsequently to the disabled and their dependents. The number of killed was according to a statement made by the Minister of War in the Sobranye on Nov. 22, 1927, 53,825 during the Balkan wars and 115,048 during the World war.

175 In 1929 there were 98,000 persons receiving pensions 652 as war invalids or as dependents of such, and the amount 727 of the annual charge this constituted to the budget was 372 million leva, or less than a paltry £6 a year per person at the then prevailing rate of exchange. This was all a grateful country could afford to pay to those of her sons who had been disabled in defending her. When such heroic sacrifices are so poorly requited, it is not surprising that its citizens' devotion towards it should perceptively cool and that they should turn for consolation to such subversive doctrines as Communism, which holds out the promise of greater justice and equity.

11: Logio S-4 (no date) 1936 EE1 Bulgaria LE1

in the conflict. The Rumanian Minister in Sofia gave assurances that Rumania would support Bulgaria's claim to Macedonia, that she would retrocede southern Dobrudja, and that she would intervene in order that a separate peace be concluded with the Entente, and that finally, Bulgaria would secure the Midia-Enos line in Thrace. The Opposition did its best to convince Radoslavov of the expediency of this policy, it also sent delegates to Ferdinand to plead in favour of the adoption of this plan, but Ferdinand rejected them with contumely and ordered Radoslavov to declare war on Rumania which was done on September 1, 1916, four days later than Germany.

After the occupation of the Dobrudja, the Germans started requisitioning all the available supplies and this gave rise to continuous incidents between the Bulgarians and the Germans. The occupation of the railway lines and the installing of German administrative authorities in certain parts of the Dobrudja which was claimed in its entirety by Bulgaria, caused a very grave conflict between the two allied governments, and strained relations almost to breaking point.

In the early spring of 1917, General Sarrail showed activity on the Salonica front and on July 2, Greece, after King Constantine's expulsion, officially declared war on Bulgaria. The Bulgarians appealed for assistance to Germany but received nothing save the advice to shorten their front by retreating. The dearth of foodstuffs and the ever-increasing pressure of the enemy on the Salonica front was rendering the situation in Bulgaria desperate. General Jekov was often in complete disagreement with the Government and refused to take orders from it. On September 20 the Agrarians sent a letter to the commander-in-chief proposing to him to overthrow the Radoslavov Government and assuring him of their willingness to continue the policy of co-operation with Germany.

8: Armstrong S-4 (no date) 1951 EF1 Yugoslavia Bulgaria EEE EF1

in the period of extreme Nazi peril it played down nationalism as a revolutionary weapon, minimized the revolutionary rôle of the Red Army and emphasized Marxism's reformist aspects. After the Nazi attack, Stalin revived the emphasis on nationalism with a bang; and the successful progress and outcome of the Great Patriotic War prepared the way for the reappearance of nationalism in international Communist tactics.

When the Nazi armies overran Jugoslavia and Greece, Hitler placed most of Macedonia in charge of his Bulgarian allies, who tried with usual Balkan violence and lack of success to convince its inhabitants that they were all Bulgars. One reason why Tito developed the political organ of the Partisan movement, the AVNOJ, described in an earlier chapter, was in order that there might exist some national body to protest enemy annexations and occupations—Italian and Hungarian as well as Bulgarian—and stake out Jugoslavia's counterclaims in debatable areas. Thus at a meeting at Jajce in November 1943 the AVNOJ adopted a resolution setting forth Jugoslav territorial claims against Italy, which had just collapsed, and another calling for the future organization of Jugoslavia on a federal basis and naming Macedonia as one of the six component units. The borders of Macedonia were not specified. In other words, no indication was given whether Tito would be content with the part of Macedonia which had formed part of the national territory before the war or would try to enlarge Jugoslav holdings at Bulgaria's expense. Tito asked for Stalin's approval of the Jajce program, and secured it.

But although Stalin approved the Jajce declaration he was not ready to relinquish the Bulgarian card entirely, as was presently shown by the fact that the Bulgarian Communists continued to espouse a contrary solution for the Macedonian question, joining with other anti-Nazi Bulgarian elements in proclaiming that the only way to dispose permanently of the "apple of discord" would be to merge the three segments—Jugoslav, Greek and Bulgarian—in "an integral, free and independent Macedonia." Nor did he forbid them to indicate which nation was entitled to be the "apple's" custodian: their proclamation described Macedonia as "the cradle of the Bulgarian nation for which a river of blood has been given."

9:Megas I,B-5,4 (no date) 1951 EH1 Greece EH1
Bulgaria EE1
Slavic Peoples
E16

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342 selves in the valleys of the Danube, found both troglodyte and sur-
SL face dwellings in use among the previous inhabitants of these areas,
[342] i.e. the Thracians, from whom Roumanians of Vlachia and Moldavia, and Albanians of the Skodra lake area took over these huts, called bordeiu (1).

B More specially the Bulgars, who in their ancient home were living
[361] a nomad life, had no permanent houses. They lived just as the rest of Turanian peoples, in tents they put up in places where they could find pastures for their herds; when the pastures were exhausted, camps were dissolved and the tents carried with the nomads.

B When, under the leadership of Asparuch, Bulgars established a
175 strong base in the Delta of the Danube and when, using this strong-
648 hold as a base, they occupied all the area between this river and the
361 Balkan mountains, only then began the Bulgars to know the ad-
G vantages of permanent installation. For a long time, however, they
175 were wild fighters and lived on the peoples they subjugated, the old
648 Thracians, who had been hellenised, or latinised, and the other Greeks and Slavs who had established themselves in those areas during the previous century (2). These Slavs, according to Procopius (3) and to
SL the Biography of Saint Demetrius (4), knew only how to build (5)
[342] «miserable huts» or «tents» besides the underground shelters men-
B tioned above. The thousands of Greek prisoners who were kid-
Q[727] napped during the Bulgarian invasions were «drafted» into the in-

1) According to **Fr. Nopcsa,** Albanien, 1925, p. 11 these underground dwellings of Roumania and Bulgaria represent the immediate descendants of the pre-historic and Roman housings of the Haimos peninsula. The writings on the tiles found in pre-historic dwellings have a Thracian character. Remains of Thracian tribes have been found despite the Illyric over-layer, both, in the Skodra lake and in Dardania. Dobroutcha has always been a Thracian area.

2) **D. Zakythinos,** Οἱ Σλάβοι ἐν Ἑλλάδι, Athens, 1945, p. 27 «The permanent installation of Slav tribes in the Balkan peninsula begins only during the first years of the 7th Century».

3) **Procop.** De bello Gotth. 3, 14: Οἰκοῦσι δὲ (Σκλάβηνοί τε καὶ Ἄνται) ἐν καλύβαις οἰκτραῖς διεσκηνημένοι πολλῷ μὲν ἀπ' ἀλλήλων, ἁμείβοντες δὲ ὡς τὰ πολλὰ τὸν τῆς ἐνοικήσεως ἕκαστοι χῶρον.

4) **A. Tougard,** De l'histoire profane dans les actes grecs des bollandistes. Paris 1874, p. 184, 190.

5) According to **Niederle,** op. cit. 2, p. 98, «it is easily understood that the Slavs used to build, besides the underground shelters (abris) which were covered by an additional wooden roof, light huts without any trenches on the model of the «koliba», built by the shepherds of the Karpathians and the Balkans, made of inter-woven branches of trees».

9:Megas I, B-5,4 (no date) 1951 EH1 Greece EH1
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vader's country(1) and they were obliged not only to cultivate the land on behalf of their owners, but also to carry out all other work and naturally to build permanent houses which were necessary, since Bulgars were to establish themselves for good in these newly conquered districts.

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For a long time Bulgars had either the disposition nor the sense to learning arts and crafts. Even where they had abandoned their incursions and lootings and were giving themselves to peaceful occupations, as agriculture and stock-breeding, they did not take to the arts. The palaces and the churches of Bulgaria have been built by foreigners, especially by Greeks, such as the beautiful palace of Aboba near Schumen, which is a monument of Byzantine style of the 9th or 10th century(2). But even later, after the 15th century, when Bulgaria, accord-

1) The Bulgarian inroads on Greek territories for looting and capture of prisoners began in the period of Asparouch (679-701) and continued till the reign of Michael (1246-1257). King Krum, when he captured Adrianoupolis in 813, took away all her inhabitants, as well as those of the surrounding areas, all amounting to 40.000, into Bulgarian territory to the North of the Danube. Another 50.000 prisoners together with other loot, were taken during the winter of the same year from Thrace (**W. Slatarski,** Geschichte der Bulgaren, I, Leipzig, 1918 p. 15,29). According to the Bulgarian historian **Ivan Sakazov** (Bulgarische Wirtschaftsgeschichte, Berlin u. Leipzig, 1929, p. 57 foll.) «Bulgaria was filled up with prisoners and cattle, which formed the Bulgarian national wealth and made their well-being possible. It was on this basis that the material civilization was formed, which Omortag, Krum's heir, bequeathed to his descendents.» Later (1206), during a battle near the Tountza river, when the Bulgarian Ioannitzis or Skyloyiannis was totally defeated by the Greeks, 20.000 prisoners together with 3.000 carts were liberated, while they were led towards Bulgaria together with a great amount of loot. See **Diog. Xanalatos,** Οἱ Ἕλληνες καὶ οἱ Βούλγαροι εἰς τὴν Μακεδονίαν καὶ Θρᾴκην. Α' Athens 1914 pp. 17, 22 etc. 33, 39, 40 etc. Cp. **K. Paparrigopoulos,** Ἱστορ. Ἑλλ. Ἔθνους 6th edition, tome 4, b, 186 and foll. t. 5, a 23. **K. Amandos,** Ἱστορία τοῦ Βυζαντινοῦ Κράτους Α' 1939 p. 411. Β' 1947, pp 5, 173, 426. Οἱ βόρειοι γείτονες τῆς Ἑλλάδος, 1923 p. 26 and 40 **Ant. Keramopoullos** Οἱ Ἕλληνες καὶ οἱ βόρειοι γείτονες, Athens 1945, p. 167 and foll. **G. A. Megas,** Ἀδριανούπολις ἡ πολυκρουσεμένη in the periodical Ἑλληνικὴ Δημιουργία t. I 1948 pp. 93 and foll.

2) **L. Niederle,** op. cit. 112. **C. Jirecek** says that: «Even in the best years of the Middle Ages, during the reign of Tsar Symeon, according to the evidence given by Joannis Exarchos, there were to be seen but straw-covered huts in Bulgaria, except for the palace of the king». Straw-covered huts in Bulgaria are also mentioned by Kantakouzinos, 1, 144, edit. Bonn.

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According to the Bulgarian historian **I. Sakazov,** op cit. p. 41, «The very beginnings of an economic organisation in Bulgaria appeared in the court of the Tsars and with the aristocracy, who were trying to imitate the Byzan-